

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A method for cleaning an article containing contaminants comprising:
 - (a) providing a zeotropic solvent composition comprising at least one flammable solvent having a boiling point at a first pressure, at least one first nonflammable solvent having a boiling point lower than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure ~~at said first pressure less than about the first pressure boiling point of said flammable solvent,~~ and at least one second nonflammable solvent having a boiling point higher than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure ~~at said first pressure greater than about the first pressure boiling point of said flammable solvent;~~ and
 - (b) contacting the article with said zeotropic solvent composition to remove at least a portion of the contaminants from said article.
2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the article with a stream comprising said zeotropic composition.
3. (currently amended): The method of claim 2 wherein said contacting step comprises passing said stream across the article.

4. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said contacting step comprises immersing the article in said zeotropic solvent composition.
5. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said providing step comprises providing a liquid phase comprising said zeotropic solvent composition and providing a vapor phase comprising said zeotropic solvent composition, and said ~~immersing step~~ contacting comprises immersing the article in said liquid phase and in said vapor phase.
6. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said contacting step comprises spraying the article with said zeotropic solvent composition.
7. (currently amended): The method of claim 2 wherein said zeotropic solvent composition is in vapor phase for at least a portion of the contacting step.
8. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the contacting step is conducted in a vapor degreaser.
9. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said flammable solvent is selected from the group consisting of isomers of HFC-365, methylal, ethylal, cis and trans dichloroethylene, isopropyl chloride, pentane and

other C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbons, C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon alcohols, and C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon ketones.

10. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said flammable solvent comprises trans-1,2-dichloroethylene.
11. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein at least one said nonflammable solvents is selected from the group consisting of HFC-245fa and other isomers of HFC-245, isomers of HFC-236, isomers of HFC-356, HFC-4310, HCFC-141b, isomers of HCFC-225, isomers of HCFC-123, isomers of HCFC-124, HFE-7100, HFE-7200, trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, n-propyl bromide, and nonflammable fluoriodocarbons.
12. (original): The method of claim 10 wherein said at least one first nonflammable solvent comprises HFC-245fa.
13. (original): The method of claim 10 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.
14. (original): The method of claim 12 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.

15. (currently amended): A zeotropic solvent composition comprising in a zeotropic relationship:
- (a) at least one flammable solvent having a boiling point at a first pressure;
 - (b) at least one first nonflammable solvent having a boiling point that is lower than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure ~~which is less than about the boiling point of said flammable solvent~~; and
 - (c) at least one second nonflammable solvent having a boiling point that is higher than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure ~~which is greater than about the boiling point of said flammable solvent~~.
16. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said flammable solvent is an azeotropic combination of at least two compounds.
17. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein at least one of said nonflammable solvents is an azeotropic combination of at least two compounds.
18. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said flammable solvent is selected from the group consisting of isomers of HFC-365, methylal, ethylal, cis and trans dichloroethylene, isopropyl chloride, pentane and

other C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbons, C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon alcohols, and C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon ketones.

19. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said flammable solvent comprises trans-1,2-dichloroethylene.
20. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein at least one said nonflammable solvents is selected from the group consisting of HFC-245fa and other isomers of HFC-245, isomers of HFC-236, isomers of HFC-356, HFC-4310, HCFC-141b, isomers of HCFC-225, isomers of HCFC-123, isomers of HCFC-124, HFE-7100, HFE-7200, trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, n-propyl bromide, and nonflammable fluoriodocarbons.
21. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said at least one first nonflammable solvent comprises HFC-245fa.
22. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.
23. (original): The composition of claim 21 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.

24. (original): The composition of claim 15 wherein said first pressure is about one atmosphere.
25. (original): A sprayable composition comprising a composition according to claim 15.
26. (currently amended): A method for cleaning an article containing contaminants comprising vapor degreasing said article in the substantial absence of any flammable vapor or liquid phase, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a zeotropic solvent composition comprising at least one flammable solvent having a boiling point at a first pressure, at least one first nonflammable solvent having a boiling point lower than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure ~~at said first pressure~~ less than about the first pressure boiling point of said flammable solvent, and at least one second nonflammable solvent having a boiling point higher than said flammable solvent boiling point at said first pressure at ~~said first pressure greater than about the first pressure boiling point of said flammable solvent~~; and
 - (b) contacting the article with said zeotropic solvent composition to remove at least a portion of the contaminants from said article.

27. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein said first pressure is about one atmosphere.
28. (currently amended): The method of claim 26 wherein said contacting step comprises immersing the article in a said zeotropic solvent composition.
29. (currently amended): The method of claim 26 wherein said providing step comprises providing a liquid phase comprising said zeotropic solvent composition and providing a vapor phase comprising said zeotropic solvent composition, and said ~~immersing step~~ contacting comprises immersing the article in said liquid phase and in said vapor phase.
30. (currently amended): The method of claim 26 wherein said contacting step comprises spraying the article with said zeotropic solvent composition.
31. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein said flammable solvent is selected from the group consisting of isomers of HFC-365, methylal, ethylal, cis and trans dichloroethylene, isopropyl chloride, pentane and other C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbons, C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon alcohols, and C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon ketones.

32. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein said flammable solvent comprises trans-1,2-dichloroethylene.
33. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein at least one said nonflammable solvents is selected from the group consisting of HFC-245fa and other isomers of HFC-245, isomers of HFC-236, isomers of HFC-356, HFC-4310, HCFC-141b, isomers of HCFC-225, isomers of HCFC-123, isomers of HCFC-124, HFE-7100, HFE-7200, trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, n-propyl bromide, and nonflammable fluoriodocarbons.
34. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein said at least one first nonflammable solvent comprises HFC-245fa.
35. (original): The method of claim 26 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.
36. (original): The method of claim 34 wherein said at least one second nonflammable solvent comprises HFE-7100.